Minimal Pairs Dictation

Overview

- Do a dictation quiz using scratch paper. Don't spend time making a worksheet.
- If you project the last page of a Minimal Pair slideshow on the wall, students don't have to remember the spelling but they still need to learn the pronunciation. If students are feeling overwhelmed, this is useful.
- When you're doing a quiz, you can choose the format. Either you say a word and students write it down, or you say a sentence and students write it down.

Set A

1. The bus is red.
2. Birds can fly.
3. It is hot.
4. The ball is blue.
5. Lock the door.
6. Have a bath.
7. Fry the eggs.
8. That hat is blue.
9. The bell rang.
10. The rock is hard.
11. Cows can't fly.
12. Kick the ball.
13. The man needs a bath.
14. Don't throw rocks.
15. Is that your hat?

Set B

1. The ship is old.
2. The fan is on.
3. The mouse likes cheese.
4. He has a cap.
5. Turn off the light.
6. There are lots of sheep.
7. He drives a van.
8. Open your mouth.
9. The cup is on the table.
10. Turn right at the door.
11. Watch your mouth.
12. That's right.
13. Here comes a van.
14. The cup is clean.
15. Sheep are cute.

Set C

1. She plays the piano.
2. The pen is red.
3. The race was fun.
4. What fruit do you like?
5. The cat is sleeping.
6. I cut my hair.
7. She plays the flute.
8. Pin the photo to the wall.
9. The man is praying.
10. I eat rice.
11. Do you have a cat?
12. She plays baseball.
13. Let's eat fruit.
14. Rice is white.
15. What color is the pen?

Set D

1. Horses are fast.
2. Do you think so?
3. Grass is green.
4. Look at the map.
5. Her hair is black.
6. May I have a glass of water?
7. Her eyes are blue.
8. Please mop the floor.
9. I will use the hose.
10. The sink is full.
11. The girl has brown hair.
12. Take out the map.
13. Think again.
14. The horse is big.
15. He dropped the glass.

Set E

1. That man plays tennis.
2. This vase is beautiful.
3. Don’t wash your watch.
4. Peas are delicious.
5. Hit the ball.
6. The men played rugby.
7. The girl loves bees.
8. Is the heat on?
9. Stand on the base.
10. Where is my watch?
11. Bees can fly.
12. He washed the bowl.
13. That man is tall.
14. The ball hit the wall.
15. Flowers are in the vase.

Set F

1. Throw me the ball.
2. Cats love eating fish.
3. A bug is on the table.
4. Foxes are cute.
5. It’s a large hill.
6. The bus is slow.
7. Put it in the cart.
8. He wants a box.
9. The bag is on the chair.
10. The boy is on his heels.
11. The house is on a hill.
12. The bag is too small.
13. The cat is not nice.
14. The fox is in the box.
15. Do not throw cats.

Set G

1. The duck is small.
2. Clowns are scary.
3. The girl went to sleep.
4. It is warm today.
5. Make a shopping list.
6. Try not to slip.
7. It’s on your wrist.
8. Where is the crown?
9. Do you like worms?
10. The dock is brown.
11. It’s warm in the sun.
12. Check your list.
13. The dock is over there.
14. The clown is funny.
15. Don’t sleep in class.

Set H

1. It was a good year.
2. Today’s work was difficult.
3. She likes to eat peaches.
4. The gull is on the rock.
5. That runner is fast.
6. He can pitch well.
7. You go first.
8. Her ears are cold.
9. Let’s go for a walk.
10. Look at that girl.
11. The girl looked at the gull.
12. What year is it?
13. He walks to work.
14. Give me a peach.
15. First things first.